

Martin County JOURNAL

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Nine pages

City council approves water/sewer rate increases

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Loogootee City Council held a public hearing Monday night, August 10 to hear comments on the proposed water and sewer rate increases. The city was proposing a 43 percent increase for water (20 percent in 2021, 17 percent in 2022 and 6 percent in 2023) and a 35 percent increase for sewer (15 percent in 2021, 15 percent in 2022 and 5 percent in 2023). The council unanimously approved the increases.

A few residents who live in the West Boggs Sewer District, who will also be affected by the increase, were present with questions pertaining to what upgrades will be done for their system. The City of Loogootee purchased the West Boggs Sewer District four years ago. Loogootee Mayor Noel Harty said that no upgrades were planned for the West Boggs Sewer customers however Utilities Manager Bo Wilson said the upgrades planned will improve service for all customers.

There were no residents from the City of Loogootee who spoke but a few residents from outside the city asked questions. Casey Dearwester, who lives in Scenic Hill, asked if the improvements would help with water pressure for Scenic Hill customers. Wilson replied that a booster station is planned for the Scenic Hill area. Dearwester also asked whether the \$10 service fee that residents outside the city have been paying for years would be eliminated now with the increases. The

mayor replied that there are no plans to stop collecting that fee.

The projects proposed that require the rate increase, \$2.7 million for the water side, include a new generator and automatic transfer switch (ATS) at the water treatment plant, additional valving on the 14-inch ductile iron raw water supply main, new high service pump variable frequency drives (VFD's), supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system upgrades, distribution system improvements to replace old, failing cast iron mains, a water system asset management plan, repainting/rehabilitation of the 750,000-gallon and 250,000-gallon water towers, and new booster stations in Scenic Hills and on State Road 550.

On the sewer side, \$1.65 million in improvements include a new chemical feed equipment building, collection system improvements including sewer main replacement and manhole relining, a wastewater system asset management plan, a new maintenance building, upgrading of the city's closed-circuit television (CCTV) equipment, upgrading of existing lift station electrical systems/controls, replacement of the wastewater treatment plants oxidation ditch air brush covers/weatherhoods, and system wide smoke testing. Stormwater system improvements include the replacement of aging stormwater infrastructure and asphalt paving associated with said improvements located on various streets throughout the City of Loogootee.

After the rates go into full effect, Loogootee water customers using 4,000 gallons a month will pay \$46.96 per month (currently \$31.54). In comparison to other cities and towns, the same gallon usage in Shoals is \$23.92, Salem costs \$26.31 and customers on East Fork Water in Martin County pay \$29.28. In Ferdinand it costs \$33.23, in Jasper \$39.20 currently, in Mitchell \$51.48 currently and in Paoli \$52.53.

Loogootee sewer will cost \$65.97 per month (currently \$47.51) for 4,000 usage. In Jasper, they pay \$34.55. Shoals pays \$37.76. In Paoli, they pay \$43.55. In Huntingburg, they pay \$49.19. In Ferdinand, they pay \$66.58.

According to Jessica Eckerle, with Baker Tilly, the Loogootee water utility is no longer regulated by the Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) and the sewage works has never been regulated by them. The city is not required to file anything with the IURC or get their approval prior to adjusting the rates. More information can be found at www.in.gov/iurc/.

In other business, Superintendent Wilson requested the city approve the purchase of a new zero-turn mower. He received three quotes, one from Boyd and Sons for \$9,550, one from Wagler and Sons for \$9,600 and one from Hopf Equipment for \$9,750.

Tim Hudson, who was in the audience, asked how much time the city workers were spending on mowing and wondered if they should hire a company to do the mowing like they did in the past. Wilson replied that they have three mowers currently, one that is not working, and spend three days a week mowing.

The council decided to table a decision on purchasing a new mower.

Wilson then requested permission to purchase a new utility truck. He received three quotes, two from Ruxer for \$35,633 and \$36,824 and one from Ubelhor for \$37,938. The council decided to wait on approving a purchase.

Jill Spaulding, with St. Vincent Stat Flight, talked to the council about a county-wide contract to provide services to all Martin County residents. The cost would be \$6 per household or around \$25,000. She will be going to the commissioners to present the proposal to them but wanted the city to be aware as they will be asked to help pay for some of the contract if approved. St. Vincent Stat Flight provides medical helicopter transports for residents and are currently working to set up a base in Dubois County.

Everett Hopkins requested that the council consider implementing an ordinance to allow four-wheelers on city streets. Hopkins said that Shoals and Montgomery allow four-wheelers and feels Loogootee should as well. Mayor Harty said they will look into the issue.

The council approved \$3,000 for Midwestern Engineers to do a water loss ratio for the city, as required to apply for funding. They also approved \$8,125 to do an environmental study on the railroad lot at the corner of Church Street and JFK Avenue. The city applied for a grant to (See 'CITY COUNCIL' on page 2)

County council discusses sheriff vehicle purchases

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

The Martin County Council met Monday morning, August 10. The main topic of discussion were requests from the sheriff's department.

Sheriff Travis Roush said that he received \$42,000 from the City of Loogootee for the sheriff's department providing dispatch services for Loogootee residents. The money received covers half of 2017 through half of this year. The City of Loogootee recently made the decision to hire their own dispatchers and provide dispatch services in their department. Sheriff Roush requested the \$42,000 be put back into the sheriff's department funds to pay for vehicle purchases. He said that when

School board filings

The following have filed for school board candidacy in Martin County:

Shoals District 2

No filings

Shoals District 3

No filings

Shoals School Board District 5

Drexel Turpin

Loogootee At-Large (two openings)

No filings

Deadline to file is August 21, 2020 at noon. Documents for filing can be picked up at the clerk's office.

For more information, contact the Martin County Clerk's office at 812-247-3651.

the contract was first established, he understood from the council that he could keep the money in his department. The sheriff said he will also be coming back to the council to request additional money for vehicle purchases.

The sheriff was asked if the city has stopped using the sheriff's department to provide dispatch services. Sheriff Roush replied that he is in talks with the Loogootee mayor and he understands that the city wants the sheriff's department to provide some limited dispatch services.

Council Member Buck Stiles, attending the meeting virtually, asked Sheriff Roush if the funds he received from Loogootee should go to paying salaries for dispatchers, instead of paying for vehicles. The sheriff replied that there are other counties whose sheriff's departments receive the money back to their department and there is no law saying it can't be used for vehicles.

Council Member Stiles asked how many vehicles the sheriff's department has purchased this year. Chief Deputy Josh Greene said there have been five purchased.

Sheriff Roush interjected and said he was not prepared at this meeting to discuss vehicle purchases and wanted the Loogootee dispatch money to be voted on first.

"How am I supposed to serve the public if I don't have an operational platform?" asked the sheriff.

The council then voted in favor of letting the sheriff's department keep the \$42,000 for vehicle purchases with Council Member Stiles.

(See 'SHERIFF' on page 2)

Resident asks commissioners to redraw precinct lines in the Town of Crane

BY COURTNEY HUGHETT
Martin County Journal Publisher

Bernard Butcher, of Crane, approached the Martin County Commissioners at their meeting Tuesday night, August 11 about residents located outside the Town of Crane voting and running for office in the town. Butcher said that a trailer park outside the Town of Crane, housing 5-6 families, do not pay taxes to the town and one of them currently serves on the town council. Butcher said he checked with the clerk's office and was told that the commissioners could change the precincts to where the trailer park is not voting in the town.

Clerk Gerald Montgomery, who was in attendance at the meeting, said that Crane has very few voters each election. He said the Primary election this past May brought in 24 voters. There are 118 active registered voters in the town. He said the state election commission told him that the commissioners can make a resolution to change the precincts and decide who is not in the Crane town limits. The state also told him that as far as the person sitting on the town council now, they could stay on until next election, if the precincts change. They would not be allowed to run again for council.

County Attorney Dave Lett said that the residents in question should be voting in Perry Township. Clerk Montgomery said they are currently in the Crane precinct and there is currently not a Perry Township precinct that covers that area. Attorney Lett said it would be up to the

commissioners to decide where these residents go.

Attorney Lett said the commissioners can't vote on anything to do with who is allowed to run for office in Crane - this would be up to the Crane town attorney and the town council. He added that the (See 'COMMISSIONERS' on page 5)

August 14 final date to help with surveys

In partnership with eSolve Solutions and Indiana University Bloomington, Martin County has recently completed a series of surveys surrounding health-care and access to care for residents. This survey series provides county leadership and grant writers with data to best inform future decision making, grant applications, and conversations with service providers.

If you have not participated in the surveys, there is still time. All of the surveys in the series will be open until Friday, August 14. If you wish to participate, please visit the Ready Martin County Facebook page to complete any of the surveys.

As a thank you to those who have completed the surveys, a drawing will take place in the coming weeks. There will be 200 winners, and each will receive a \$20 gift card. The winners will be notified via email after the drawing.

On behalf of county leadership, eSolve Solutions, and Indiana University, we would like to thank you for joining the conversation for the future of Martin County.



Southern Indiana Community Health Care (SICHC) launches new OB services for expectant mothers and families in Crawford, Martin and Washington counties. From left to right are Dr. Karen Farris, Dr. Yolanda Yoder (SICHC Medical Director), Dr. Sean Sales, and Missy Ray, FNP.

SICHC expands obstetrics services into Martin County

Long-time medical provider Southern Indiana Community Health Care (SICHC) formally launched its new obstetrics services in Crawford and Martin counties in early August. The new OB service will now provide a full spectrum of services, including well-woman visits, female health, birth control, pregnancy care (pre-natal and post-partum), well-baby care, tobacco cessation and other OB-related services.

"We are very pleased to introduce these new services locally in what has sometimes been described as a medical desert for critical OB services for pregnant mothers and babies," said Dr. Yolanda Yoder, MD, SICHC Medical Director. "We are excited that our medical professionals will begin seeing obstetrics and gynecology patients this month in Crawford and Martin counties." SICHC is also planning to bring OB services to the Salem area in Washington county later in August.

The SICHC OB expansion is funded in part by a \$358,000 grant an award from the Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) Maternal and Child Health (MCH) Division to increase availability of prenatal care for women in targeted areas. The purpose of this grant is to help meet the needs of women and families in rural areas of the state where needed obstetrical services are not available nearby.

The new OB services will be provided at rural facilities in English, Marengo, and Shoals. The facilities provide convenient access and reduce barriers of transportation in securing quality health care, including being closer to under-served Hoosier mothers and segments of Indiana's Amish population.

The services in Shoals will take place at the Hoosier Uplands Health Department/WIC site, which is partnering with SICHC to provide a broad spectrum of services.

"Rural Indiana faces real challenges in combating infant mortality and securing quality pre-natal, pregnancy, post-partum and well-baby care, and we are grateful to see SICHC stepping up to deliver these important health care services where there is a demonstrated critical need," said Indiana State Health Commissioner Kris Box, MD, FACOG. "SICHC's demonstrated commitment to provide health care regardless of a patient's ability to pay represents a real asset in these medically underserved and economically challenged areas of southern Indiana."

A traveling Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP), Missy Ray, MSN, will serve OB patients in the three offices. In addition to holding a master's degree in nursing with her FNP certification, Ms. Ray has considerable experience in obstetrics. SICHC has also secured the services of Dr. Karen Farris, a family practice physician, who will begin taking appointments in mid-August for OB patients in the SICHC Valley Health Care office in West Baden Indiana (Orange County).

Service to OB patients will be directly coordinated with the selected delivering physician, including secure video, phone, and electronic connectivity with the physician during prenatal visits. Patients will transition to direct physician care at 36 weeks in SICHC's Paoli or West Baden offices until delivery, which will take place at the IU Health hospital in Paoli, according to Dr. Yoder. Transportation assistance is available for patients in need.

"SICHC has a demonstrated passion for providing medical services to communities and regions in southern Indiana that sometimes face serious challenges in securing access to health care," said Nancy Radcliff, SICHC CEO. "We are privileged to continue to do what it takes – even seeing patients in our facilities parking lots during this time of COVID-19 – to support the patients, families and rural communities in our southern Indiana region."

SICHC OB services will be offered at three locations:

- Uplands Health Department/WIC – 127 West Water Street, Shoals, IN

- Patoka Health Care – 307 S Indiana Ave, English, IN

- Crawford County Health Care – 5604 E. White Oak Lane, Marengo, IN

Hours are 9 a.m.-4 p.m. (EDT), with offices closed for lunch between noon and 1 p.m. To schedule an appointment, please call 812-723-3944 and specify the location.

Another new SICHC OB service site will be operational this fall in Salem, Indiana in Washington County.

SHERIFF

(Continued from page one)
Council Members Stiles and Sherri Bowling voting against.

Council Member Stiles requested that they discuss the sheriff's department vehicle purchases at budget hearings and said he hoped everyone could meet in person instead of virtually via Zoom.

Sheriff Roush replied that everyone except Council Members Stiles and Bowling were at the courthouse in person now. Council Member Bowling, who was on Zoom with Stiles, said she understood the meeting was virtual only and it was her fault that she and Stiles were not in attendance.

Chief Deputy Greene noted that they used money approved last year by the council, along with commissary funds, to purchase vehicles this year.

Jamison Hibbs, director of West Boggs Park, talked to the council about implementing an innkeepers' tax. He, along with Pam Loughmiller who owns the Eldorado Motel, were in attendance to make the request. Hibbs said that West Boggs and Eldorado are the only two "innkeepers" in the county currently and both agree that the innkeepers' tax can help tourism in the county. The county currently gives

CITY COUNCIL

(Continued from page one)

turn the lot into a "pocket park". Council Member Teresa Nolley asked why they were spending so much money on the lot before they even know if funding will be received. She said that \$5,000 was spent last month to hire a company to coordinate electricity poles to be moved and now the environmental study. Mayor Harty replied that these things would have to be done regardless of grant funding.

Mayor Harty said that the triangle of property located in front of the former library building is owned by the city. Forrest Burton made a request several months ago to erect a Ten Commandments monument somewhere in the city. Mayor Harty said the question will be if the city needs to sell Burton the land to construct the monument or if the city can grant permission for the monument to go on their property. Gene Colvin, who was in the audience, asked if the council was prepared to allow anyone to now make a request to put a monument on city property. He said the city is setting a precedent that will need to be used for any requests in the future. Burton replied that this isn't a request for an individual, it was a request for God. Mayor Harty added that Burton offered to pay for the monument himself, something most people would not do. He said \$10,000 is a lot of money and while he is sure Burton will receive donations to help pay for the monument, he commends him for offering to pay for it all.

Council Member Teresa Nolley agreed with Colvin saying she doesn't have any issue with the Ten Commandments or with God, however the city is setting themselves up for future requests or potential issues with separating church and state. She said she is not sure the city is prepared for that. Burton replied that if the city would sell him the property, he would take on the fight himself. Council

Shoals School Board hires behavior specialist

The Shoals School Board met in special session Monday, August 10. Board members in attendance were Drexel Turpin, Eva George, Jenell Hoffman, Samantha Boyd, and Jerry Braun. Staff in attendance was Dr. Candace Roush. Patron in attendance was Stacey Fox.

Superintendent Roush recommended Stacey Fox for the autism/behavior specialist teacher for special education. A motion was made by Sam Boyd and a second was made by Jenell Hoffman. The motion passed 5-0. The meeting was adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Member Rick Norris said the city could do a 100-year lease for \$1 to Burton.

Colvin again noted that the city would need to treat any future requests the same if they approved this for Burton.

After more discussion, City Attorney Isha Wright-Ryan was asked to check into potential issues with the monument and the city and report back.

During the approval of claims, Council Member Teresa Nolley asked what happened to the golf cart the city purchased a few years ago. Superintendent Wilson said that the rear end of the golf cart went out and they upgraded it for a new one for \$1,500. Nolley asked why the council wasn't privy to this and why the purchase wasn't brought to them for approval as they are the body in charge of finances. Mayor Harty replied that the cost to repair the golf cart was estimated at \$1,500 so he went ahead and approved the water department upgrading to another one for the same amount. Nolley asked the other council members again if this should be approved by the council first. None of the other council members replied.

Nolley also asked if the city was done paying MJS & Associates who was helping train the clerk-treasurer's office. Clerk-Treasurer Carol Harder said that she still needs help with the budget process and more training, but they are not using MJS as much as they have been.

The building commissioner, Tim Hudson, approved the following building permits since last month's meeting: Loo-gootee Public Library for a patio and a sign, Norbert Mattingly on Park Street for a porch, Martin and Monica Lewis on JFK Avenue for a demolition permit and to build a carport, deck and roof; Michael Hurt in Country Court for a two-car garage, Ron Gilbert on Queen Street for a solar roof, Angel Riggle on Bloomfield Road for a storage barn, Scott Hupp on North Oak Street for a privacy fence, Adam Greene on Wood Street for a canopy, Gary and Amanda Dorsey on John C. Strange Street for a fence, Marie Truelove in Sunset Trailer Court for a ramp, Karen Doyle on Clark Street for a porch and addition, Ricky Arthur in Redwing Trailer Court for a privacy fence, Briana Templin on High Street for a driveway, Christopher Long on SW First Street for a privacy fence, Jason Loughmiller on JFK Avenue for a gazebo/shelter house, JAP Enterprises on John C. Strange Avenue for a new roof, Chris Norris on Walnut Street for a carport and siding, Tom Marks on Howard Street for a fence, and Josh Huff on Garrett Street for a pole building.

\$3,000 a year to the tourism council however Hibbs said that adding the innkeepers tax would bring in \$1,500-\$2,000 a year and could replace the taxpayer money given to the tourism council or be in addition to. The five percent tax will be paid by the customer who is staying at the accommodation and the money will all go to Martin County, for tourism development. Hibbs said they are in the process of creating brochures to help with tourism and extra funds could be used to do more events and promotion for the county.

Hibbs said that if the tax is approved by the council, a five-member board will need to be created to oversee the tax. He said they are typically representatives from the county council, commissioners and the largest city/town.

Council Member Stiles said he thought representation needed to be from the entire county, not just Loogootee. Hibbs replied that the board could be extended to seven members to include Shoals. The council unanimously approved implementing the innkeepers' tax.

The council approved \$2,500 in additional funds for the coroner to cover autopsies and labs.

They approved \$40,000 for the high-

way department to go in their equipment repair fund to get them through the rest of the year. They also approved transferring the \$325,000 required for the Community Crossings grant, in matching funds, to the fund where the money can be spent. Council Member Stiles asked if that entire grant funding would go to paving. Highway Secretary Terri Alcorn replied that two bridges were included in the \$1.3 million grant application totaling \$307,000. The rest will go to paving.

Dan Gregory, a member of the Martin County Alliance for Economic Growth, told the council they are still working on finding a new Alliance director since Tim Kinder left. Mike Arvin is currently serving as interim director. Gregory said they will be submitting a budget to the council to consider during budget hearings as they still want the Alliance to proceed with economic development. He said another full-time director will be hired, they just want to take their time and find the right person.

The council discussed a tax abatement for ManTech in WestGate 8 in Martin County for real and personal property. The abatement request will need to be advertised prior to approval. The council will revisit the request at their next meeting.

OBITUARIES

JAMES "CHADE" OSBORNE

James M. "Chade" Osborne passed away Sunday, August 9, 2020 at his home. A resident of Loogootee, he was 57.

He was born July 11, 1963 in Jasper; son of the late James M. Sr. and Elloise (Roberts) Osborne.

Chade enjoyed fishing and being outdoors.

He was preceded in death by his parents; brother, James Edward Osborne; nephews, Jeremy Osborne, Jason Seitz and Ian Martin; and niece, Deborah Osborne.

Chade is survived by his siblings, Charles L. Osborne of Loogootee, Randy Osborne of Loogootee, Don (Brenda) Osborne of Washington, Marvin (Debbe) Osborne of Loogootee, Mariann (Ali) Hamzeh of Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates and Brenda K. (Mike) Sanders of Oaktown; and many nieces and nephews.

Private graveside services will be held at Alfordsville Community Cemetery.

Condolences may be made online at www.blakefuneralhomes.com. Arrangements were provided by Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee.

STEPHANIE BRADLEY

Stephanie Lynn Bradley passed away August 6, 2020 in French Lick. A resident of Shoals, she was 48.

She was born August 1, 1972 in Washington; the daughter of Robert and Linda D. Hert. She married Jason Campbell on September 2, 2004 in Shoals.

She was a graduate of Shoals High

School and was a housewife.

Survivors include her parents, husband, four daughters, Jill Bradley of Shoals, Kirstie (Brian) Lowry of Shoals, Storm Bradley of Shoals and Shayla Campbell of Shoals; one son, Waylon (Samantha) Bradley; one brother, Michael Ray Hert of Loogootee; and grandchildren, Lara, Noah, Kori, Kate and Oliver Bradley, Hayden Lowery and Izzy Campbell.

Services will be held 2 p.m. Wednesday, August 12 at the Queen-Lee Chapel in Shoals. Burial will be in the Spring Hill Cemetery. Visitation is 1 p.m. until the time of service on Wednesday.

The Queen-Lee Chapel of the Thorne-George Family Funeral Homes has been entrusted with the arrangements.

NORBERT STEINER

Norbert E. Steiner passed away at 8:33 p.m. Tuesday, August 4, 2020 at St. Vincent Hospital in Evansville. A resident of Jasper, he was 69.

He was born October 2, 1950 in Washington; son of the late Paul and Anna (Worland) Steiner.

Norb loved hunting, fishing and woodworking, but most of all, he loved spending time with his grandchildren. He enjoyed grilling and cooking for his family. His favorite pastime was watching the weather and birds.

He was a member of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church. He worked in various coal mines for 33 years as a heavy equipment operator and ended his career at Solar Sources.



NORBERT STEINER

Norb was preceded in death by his parents, Paul and Anna (Worland) Steiner; sister, Martha Steiner; and brother-in-law, James Fulkerson. He is survived by his wife, Liz Steiner of Jasper; children, Janella (Mike) Kellmer of Indianapolis, Michelle Mason of Jasper and Paul (Ashley) Steiner of Loogootee; grandchildren, Madelyn and Makayla Fromme; and siblings, Robert (Beth) Steiner of North Vernon, Madonna (Ed) Hankee of Indianapolis, Mary Francis Fulkerson of Mooresville, Paul V. Steiner of Montgomery, Tony (Monica) Steiner of Washington, Regina (Kent) Winger of Washington, Barbara (John) Durnil of Noblesville, Betty Riley of Dayton, Ohio, Mariann (Gabe) Mehringer of Newburgh and Virginia Quillen of Washington.

A Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated by Very Rev. J. Kenneth Walker on Monday, August 10 at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church in Loogootee. Burial followed in Fairview Cemetery in Jasper.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Condolences may be made online at www.blakefuneralhomes.com. Arrangements were provided by Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee.

CAROLYN MCGRATH

Carolyn S. McGrath passed away peacefully at 4 a.m. Friday, August 7, 2020 with her beloved husband of 44 years and family by her side. A resident of Loogootee, she was 83.

She was born September 17, 1936 in Lawrence County; daughter of the late William Clyde and Harriett (Mann) Brown.

Carolyn was fun loving and cherished

spending time with her family and grandchildren. She was a former member of St. Mary Catholic Church – Barr Township and a current member at St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents, William Clyde and Harriett (Mann) Brown; one grandson, Brian Walczak; and one sister, Mary Frazier.

She is survived by her husband, John J. McGrath; children, Jacquelyn F. Richardville, James R. (Dawn A.) McGrath, James L. Beasley, John K. (Shirley) McGrath, Jerry D. Beasley, Joe T. Beasley and Susan E. (Cynthia) McGrath; 16 grandchildren and 25 great-grandchildren.

Private graveside services were held Monday, August 10 at St. Mary Catholic Cemetery in Loogootee.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Condolences may be made online at www.blakefuneralhomes.com. Arrangements were provided by Blake Funeral Home in Loogootee.

BLAYZE CROWDER

Blayze Alexander Crowder left this world too soon and went to his new home in heaven on Wednesday, August 5, 2020. A resident of Shoals, he was 12.



BLAYZE CROWDER

Blayze was born September 10, 2007 at Jasper Memorial Hospital; the son of Brandon Crowder and Valerie (McCarthy) Mullins.

Blayze enjoyed riding bikes with his friends, spending time with his dad fixing things, being with his family, and drawing, as he was a very talented artist.

Blayze leaves behind his dad, Brandon Crowder (Amber Clifton); mom, Valerie Mullins (Thomas); siblings, Chase Crowder, Vera Crowder, Elsa Crowder, Ava Crowder, Evelyn Mullins, Zailey Mullins, Emily Riggle, and Hallie Hanson; grandparents, Richard Crowder (Kimberly), Debra Rehl (Michael), Angel McCarthy, John McCarthy, and Shannon Clark (Steve); great-grandparents, Dorothy McCarthy and June Raney; aunts and uncles, Robert Lee, Rick Crowder, Ramonda Grafton (William) "Bill", John Way (Beth), Stephanie Cushman (Christopher), Pearl Crowder, Kristie Skees (Benjamin); and Amanda McCarthy; and many cousins who loved him dearly.

A funeral service was held Tuesday, August 11 with Pastors Matthew Sullivan and Pastor Darrel Land officiating. Burial followed in Spring Hill Cemetery. Condolences may be left at www.fredrickandson.com.

TOY'S AUTO PARTS, INC.

Loogootee (812) 295-2312	Shoals (812) 247-3321	Jasper (812) 634-2222	Washington (812) 254-2540
Sullivan (812) 268-5252	Martinsville (765) 342-6623	Linton (812) 847-4494	
Jasonville (812) 665-3969	Bicknell (812) 735-3545	Bloomfield (812) 384-4453	

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Thorne-George Family Funeral Homes, Inc.

Martin County Sheriff's Department log

MONDAY, AUGUST 3

7:01 a.m. - Received a call reporting a stray dog. Animal Control Officer Josh Hughett was advised. The dog was returned to his owner.

12:05 p.m. - Received a report of a one-vehicle accident involving a deer near Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

1:05 p.m. - Received a report of objects being stolen from the graves at Spring Hill Cemetery. Chief Deputy Greene was advised.

1:41 p.m. - Received a report of a stray puppy near Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett responded and was unable to locate the puppy.

4:01 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver causing someone to run off the road near Shoals. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

5:46 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance and Shoals Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

1:28 p.m. - Received a report of a threat east of Shoals. Deputy Wells responded.

11:59 p.m. - Received a report of a one-vehicle accident near Shoals. Deputy Wells and Shoals Town Marshal Eckert responded.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4

12:26 a.m. - Received a report of a dispute east of Shoals. Deputy Wells and the Indiana State Police responded.

4:11 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance to Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded. No one was transported.

8:12 a.m. - Received a request for an officer at a business in Loogootee. Loogootee Captain Hennette responded.

8:28 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance and Shoals Fire Department responded. Martin County Ambulance transported one female to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

12:35 p.m. - Received a request for help with a skunk in Loogootee. Loogootee Dispatch was advised.

12:43 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported one patient to Daviess Community Hospital.

1:09 p.m. - Received a report of a trespasser. Major Keller responded.

1:50 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle unlock in Loogootee. Chief Deputy Greene responded.

2:07 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check southeast of Shoals. Major Keller responded.

4:20 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle inspection in Shoals. Shoals Town Marshal Eckert responded.

4:25 p.m. - Received a report of a two-vehicle accident east of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department, Martin County Ambulance, Chief Deputy Greene, and Deputy Barnett responded. G&M Wrecker Service and Big Johns Towing towed the vehicles.

6:36 p.m. - Received a report of an argument and yelling in Loogootee. Loogootee Dispatch was advised.

7:30 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

11:40 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle unlock in Loogootee. Deputy Wells responded.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5

3:35 a.m. - Received a report of a one-vehicle accident near Shoals. Deputy Wells and Deputy Gibson responded.

3:44 a.m. - Received notification of a vehicle repossession in Shoals.

4:26 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded. No one was transported.

6:01 a.m. - Received a 911 call requesting an ambulance north of Shoals. Martin County Sheriff's Office Deputies, Martin County Ambulance, Shoals Fire Department, Indiana State Police, and the Martin County Coroner responded.

10:55 a.m. - Received a request for a deputy to speak with an individual regarding a scam in Loogootee. Major Keller was advised.

4:56 p.m. - Received a report of a stray dog in the Crane. Animal Control Officer Hughett was advised.

9:02 p.m. - Received a report of a stray dog near Loogootee. Animal Control Officer Hughett responded.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6

12:22 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance, Deputy Gibson, Loogootee Officer Means, and Loogootee Fire Department responded.

3:41 a.m. - Received a request for

an officer south of Loogootee. Deputy Gibson, Loogootee Officer Means, and Martin County Ambulance responded.

4:56 a.m. - Received a request for an officer south of Loogootee. Deputy Gibson and Loogootee Officer Means responded.

10:08 a.m. - Received a report of debris in the roadway. Major Keller responded.

10:57 a.m. - Received a request for a vehicle inspection near Shoals. Deputy Barnett responded.

11:43 a.m. - Received a report of a reckless driver. All Martin County Law Enforcement were advised. Loogootee Sergeant Floyd responded.

1:24 p.m. - Received a request for a vehicle unlock in Loogootee. Major Keller responded.

5:00 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check in Shoals. Deputy Barnett and Reserve Deputy Dorsey responded.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7

10:57 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Shoals. Martin County Ambulance and Shoals Fire Department responded.

1:45 p.m. - Received a request for a deputy in Shoals. Deputy Barnett responded.

2:48 p.m. - Received a report of a possible intoxicated driver. Deputy Barnett responded.

2:50 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance south of Shoals. Martin County Ambulance, Lost River Fire Department, and Orange County Ambulance responded.

4:16 p.m. - Received a report of a speeding semi in Loogootee. Loogootee Dispatch was advised.

4:35 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Police Department responded. Martin County Ambulance transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:40 p.m. - Received a request for an officer in Crane. Indiana State Police and Deputy Barnett responded.

11:11 p.m. - Received a request for a welfare check near Shoals. Deputy Gibson, and Reserve Deputy Ochs responded.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

8:34 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire department responded. No one was transported.

9:30 a.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Daviess County. Daviess County Dispatch advised.

10:50 a.m. - Received a request for an officer north of Shoals. Deputy Barnett responded.

3:36 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance near Shoals. Martin County Ambulance, Deputy Barnett, and Shoals Fire Department responded. No one was transported.

4:50 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance south of Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Hayesville Fire Department responded. Martin County Ambulance transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

5:05 p.m. - Received a report of smoke east of Shoals. Shoals Fire Department advised. Keyholder notified the sheriff's department this was a controlled burned.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

11:38 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance east of Shoals. Martin County Ambulance and Shoals Fire Department responded. Martin County Ambulance transported to Jasper Memorial

Hospital.

2:43 p.m. - Received a report of a reckless vehicle in Shoals. Shoals Town Marshal Eckert advised.

6:31 p.m. - Received a request for the fire department in Loogootee. Loogootee Dispatch advised.

6:48 p.m. - Received a report of threats being made north of Shoals. Deputy Wells responded.

7:01 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Sergeant McBeth responded.

7:02 p.m. - Received a report of an ambulance requested west of Shoals. Martin County Ambulance responded and transported one patient to Jasper Memorial Hospital.

7:27 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance to Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance and Loogootee Fire Department responded.

9:22 p.m. - Received a request for an ambulance in Loogootee. Martin County Ambulance, Loogootee Sergeant McBeth, and the Martin County Coroner responded.

ARRESTS

MONDAY, AUGUST 3

7:58 a.m. - Gabriella Guerra, 21, of Portland, was arrested by Deputy Wells and charged with driving while suspended prior. She is being held on a \$10,000 10% bond.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5

4:36 a.m. - Joseph Simpson, 46, of Greenwood, was arrested by Deputy Wells and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated refusal, operating a vehicle while intoxicated prior, leaving the scene of an accident, possession of marijuana, and operating a vehicle without a license. He is being held on bond of \$15,000 10%.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6

5:46 a.m. - Charles Kline, 47, of Loogootee, was arrested by Deputy Gibson and charged with operating a vehicle while intoxicated, operating a vehicle while intoxicated refusal, operating a vehicle while intoxicated prior, domestic battery, and strangulation. He is being held on no bond.

11:24 a.m. - Darrin Webster, 43, of Washington, was arrested by Major Keller on a writ of attachment. His bond was set at \$398.02.

2:00 p.m. - Miles Holler turned himself in on a warrant. Bond set at \$15,000 10%.

Shooting in Martin County

On August 5, Martin County Deputies were called to the residence of 14623 State Road 450, Shoals, in reference to a shooting that had occurred. After arriving at the residence, a male juvenile was discovered deceased inside the residence. Detectives with the Indiana State Police and deputies with the Martin County Sheriff's Office then began an investigation into the events that occurred.

During the course of the investigation, detectives learned that another juvenile male, who had been at the residence, had shot the deceased juvenile male. The juvenile was taken into custody and preliminarily charged with reckless homicide.

Assisting at the scene were Martin County EMS, Shoals Fire Department, Martin County Coroner's Office, and the Martin County Prosecutor's Office.

The investigation is currently ongoing.

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COURT NEWS

CRIMINAL CHARGES DISMISSED

August 3

Angela E. Chastain, resisting law enforcement, a Class A Misdemeanor, dismissed; disorderly conduct, a Class B Misdemeanor, dismissed.

CIVIL COURT

New Suits Filed

July 29

Unifund CCR, LLC vs. Janet Limbach, civil collection.

LVNV Funding, LLC vs. Patti Freeman, civil collection.

July 30

William J. Schimke vs. Kyndra A. Schimke, petition for dissolution of mar-

riage.

August 4

Zach Taylor vs. Mark Taylor, Larita Taylor, 20th Century Farms, Inc.; Old National Bank, City of Loogootee, and Martin County Treasurer, civil plenary.

MARRIAGE LICENSES

August 7

Caleb Sherwood Ziegler of Shoals and Autumn Suzanne Quesenberry of Westfield.

John P. Norris of Loogootee and Shana L. Moninger of Loogootee.

August 11

Jared L. Mellinger of Loogootee and Teresa J. Kemp of Loogootee.

Martin County real estate transfers

Eric T. Ringwald, of Martin County, Indiana to **Wayne L. Ritchey, Tammy L. Ritchey and Reuben D. Ritchey**, of Martin County, Indiana, all that part of the east side of the southwest quarter of the northeast quarter of Section 24, Township 4 North, Range 5 West, containing 1.2 acres, more or less.

Willis Graber and Hannah Graber, of Daviess County, Indiana to **Keaton Ray Mundy**, of Lawrence County, Indiana, a part of the southeast quarter of Section 26, Township 2 North, Range 3 West, Lost River Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 1 acre, more or less.

David R. Baker and Reva D. Baker, of Dubois County, Indiana to **William L. Lagenour and Bonny S. Lagenour**, of Martin County, Indiana, a part of the

southwest quarter of the southwest quarter of Section 12, Township 1 North, Range 3 West, Lost River Township, Martin County, Indiana, containing 0.24 acre, more or less.

Donald Richard Norris, Michael L. Norris, and Sandra L. Norris, of Martin County, Indiana to **Donald Richard Norris and Connie L. Norris**, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot Number 34 in Ackerman's Addition, City of Loogootee, Martin County, Indiana. Also, Lot Number 35 in Ackerman's Addition, City of Loogootee, Martin County, Indiana.

Leah D. Payne and Frances L. Swayze to Nicole E. Harder, of Martin County, Indiana, Lot Number 6 in McCormick's Subdivision of Lot 103 in Chenoweth's Extension to the Town of West Shoals, now Shoals, Indiana.

COMMISSIONERS

(Continued from page one)

commissioners can, however, change the precincts if they so choose, but have to wait until after the General Election.

The commissioner approved Clerk Montgomery's request to rent another ballot counter for the General Election from EF&S for \$1,290. Montgomery said that since they split up polling sites due to COVID and overcrowding, they used the ballot counter they had at the courthouse to count mail in and absentee ballots. They need to rent one to have at the courthouse. Montgomery said the CARES Act will reimburse for the rental cost.

Jill Spaulding, with St. Vincent Stat Flight, talked to the commissioners about paying for a county-wide membership to provide medical flights for any resident. Spaulding said the cost would be \$25,188 a year for the estimated 4,198 households at \$6 per household. The membership would cover any resident needing a medical flight in Martin County or if they are in any adjacent county. Spaulding added that the cost of one flight can cost more than \$25,000 so the membership will pay for itself if just one resident ends up needing their service. Spaulding talked to the city council about the membership at their meeting Monday night and has spoken to Shoals Clerk-Treasurer Sierra Rutledge. She said both agreed to help pay for the cost. She said Loogootee Mayor Noel Harty said the council would pay for a quarter or a third of the cost and Rutledge said the Town of Shoals would pay for their residents.

Spaulding said there are currently six bases in Indiana, and they are getting ready to move their Evansville base to Huntingburg. Residents can also sign up for a national membership that will cover their flight, if needed, anywhere in the United States for an additional \$35 a year.

Spaulding was asked what would happen if another helicopter service responds. Commissioner Paul George said that Air Evac is currently responding to the county calls. Spaulding said they will

speak to county dispatch and let them know that Stat Flight would be first call.

Highway Superintendent Leo Padgett reported that Precision Contracting, of Ferdinand, had the low bid for erosion work on Brooks Bridge. He didn't have the bid amounts with him.

Padgett said a representative of the City of Mitchell contacted him asking to purchase Durapatch oil from the county as needed. Mitchell cannot afford a storage tank for the small amount of oil they use each year and Martin County has a 60,000 tank. The commissioners said they are fine with selling Mitchell oil but a contract needs to be created.

County Attorney Lett told the commissioners that the county council, on Monday, approved implementing an innkeepers' tax. The commissioners are now tasked with creating a board to oversee this funding. He told the commissioners that it needs to be a five-member board, at minimum with representation from each government entity. Lett said that Jameson Hibbs, president of the tourism council, suggested having a seven-member board to help ensure a quorum for meetings and to get even representation across the whole county. Commissioner Kevin Boyd said he thought five appointed members would be sufficient – two from the commissioners, one from the City of Loogootee, one from the Town of Shoals and one by the county council. Attorney Lett said the commissioners need to decide if that's what they want to do by the next meeting so the board can be established by the deadline of September 1.

Commissioner Aaron Summers asked Jameson Hibbs, who is also director of West Boggs, if he knew Bob Tedrow wanted to resign from the park board. Hibbs replied that he did know this and wanted to double check with Tedrow to verify. The commissioners told Hibbs to give them the names of anyone who approaches him interested in serving on the park board if Tedrow indeed wants to resign his position.

Loogootee Police log

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1

1:10 p.m. - Caller requested extra patrol around their residence due to recent thefts.

4:40 p.m. - Received a residential burglar alarm.

7:04 p.m. - First responders were requested on Vine Street for a medical call. Sunday, August 2

8:20 p.m. - Officer Means responded to SW 2nd Street to attempt to locate the owner of an abandoned vehicle.

11:11 p.m. - Officer Means assisted a Martin County Deputy on a report of a domestic dispute.

MONDAY, AUGUST 3

2:01 p.m. - Caller reported an animal complaint.

7:20 p.m. - Caller reported a scam call.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4

12:23 a.m. - Caller reported a female carrying a baby and diaper bag walking on SW 2nd Street. Sgt. McBeth responded.

8:21 a.m. - Received a report of a suspicious person behind the BMV. Captain Hennessee responded.

11:00 a.m. - Received a request for a welfare check on North Oak Street. Captain Hennessee responded.

12:07 p.m. - Captain Hennessee responded to an accident in the Crane Credit Union parking lot.

12:21 p.m. - Captain Hennessee responded to a parking complaint.

12:45 p.m. - Captain Hennessee assisted the ambulance at a residence on North Oak Street.

1:02 p.m. - Caller reported a possible impaired driver.

6:02 p.m. - Caller reported items in the roadway on US 50. Sgt. McBeth responded and removed the items.

6:39 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth responded to a report of a fight between two males on Red Bud Street.

6:41 p.m. - Caller requested to speak to an officer and have extra patrol in her area for possible thefts from her residence and unwanted individuals coming to her home. Sgt. McBeth spoke with the caller.

7:30 p.m. - Caller advised of a suspicious male on East Broadway Street reportedly asking for money from individuals. Sgt. McBeth responded to the area.

7:33 p.m. - First responders responded to a medical call at Loogootee Health and Rehab Center.

8:56 p.m. - A female caller reported items stolen from her property on SW 3rd

Street.

9:06 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth responded to a report of possible trespassing in Bowling Trailer Court.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 5

12:22 a.m. - Officer Means assisted with a medical call on Queen Street.

3:41 a.m. - Officer Means assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a report of a possible suicide attempt.

8:46 a.m. - A caller requested a check of his property he owns in town and Chief Rayhill checked on the property.

5:37 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd responded to a report of a possible impaired driver.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6

11:43 a.m. - Sgt. Floyd assisted the Martin County Sheriff's Department with a report of an aggressive driver.

12:52 p.m. - Chief Rayhill spoke with a complainant in reference to a property dispute.

1:12 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd had an abandoned vehicle towed from North Oak Street.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 7

4:24 a.m. - Officer Means responded to a report of a vehicle broken down north of Loogootee on US 231.

2:56 p.m. - Received a report of a possible impaired driver. Sgt. Floyd responded.

4:15 p.m. - Sgt. Floyd responded to a report of a semi approaching Loogootee with excessive speed.

4:40 p.m. - First responders responded to a medical call on Park Street.

8:52 p.m. - Received a call in reference to removing someone from her property.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 8

8:34 a.m. - First responders responded to a medical call on Mt. Calvary Road.

4:19 p.m. - Received a report of a possible impaired driver.

6:45 p.m. - A caller requested to speak to an officer regarding a property dispute. Sgt. McBeth responded to the residence to speak with the caller.

7:00 p.m. - Received a complaint of debris on US 231.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9

9:15 a.m. - Captain Hennessee did a welfare check on Queen Street.

6:35 p.m. - Loogootee Fire Department was dispatched to High Street in reference to an odor of smoke at a residence.

6:45 p.m. - Sgt. McBeth responded to a request to assist with a delinquent child.

7:34 p.m. - First responders responded to a medical call on North Street.

9:25 p.m. - First responders responded to a medical call on Park Street.

Martin County COVID update for August to date

To date for the month of August, Martin County has been credited with seven positive cases of novel coronavirus (COVID-19) reported to ISDH. There are three of those seven who are out-of-county residents and will be transferred to their home county. The total number of positive cases is now at 46. To date, over 800 people have been tested for Covid-19 from Martin County.

The most important thing we can do to prevent the spread of Covid-19 is to stay home if you are sick. Those who have symptoms of or test positive for Covid-19 should isolate away from others in your household for at least 10 days from the start of symptoms. Individuals who have been in close contact with someone who is symptomatic for Covid-19 or tests positive for Covid-19 should isolate at home for 14 days from the date of last contact with that person. A close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of a positive or symptomatic person for longer than 15 minutes.

The Martin County Health Department is working closely with the Indiana State Department of Health Contact Tracing

Team to ensure that contacts of the patients are identified and monitored and that infection control protocols are being followed.

The best way to protect yourself from any respiratory illness is to:

-Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

-Wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth any time you are in public.

-Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

-Avoid close contact (within 6 feet) with people who are sick.

-Stay home when you are sick. If you have symptoms consistent with Covid-19 self-isolate for at least 10 days away from other members of your household. A sick individual should continue to isolate until symptoms have resolved for at least 72 hours. For some that may mean isolation lasts longer than 10 days.

-Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

-Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

More Neat Stuff



By Ann Ackerman



When Forest Gump died, he stood in front of St. Peter at the Pearly Gates. St. Peter said, "Welcome, Forest. We've heard a lot about you."

He continued, "Unfortunately, it's getting pretty crowded up here and we find that we now have to give people an entrance examination before we let them in."

"Okay," said Forest. "I hope it's not too hard. I've already been through a test. My momma used to say, 'Life is like a final exam. It's hard.'"

"Yes, Forest, I know. But this test is only three questions. Here they are."

1) Which two days of the week begin with the letter 'T'?"

2) How many seconds are in a year?

3) What is God's first name?"

"Well, sir," said Forest, "The first one is easy. Which two days of the week begin with the letter 'T'? Today and Tomorrow."

St. Peter looked surprised and said, "Well, that wasn't the answer I was looking for, but you have a point. I give you credit for that answer."

"The next question," said Forest, "How many seconds are in a year? Twelve."

"Twelve?" said St. Peter, surprised and confused.

"Yes, sir. January 2nd, February 2nd, March 2nd ..."

St. Peter interrupted him. "I see what you mean. I'll have to give you credit for that one, too."

"And the last question," said Forest, "What is God's first name? It's Andy."

"Andy?" said St. Peter, in shock. "How did you come up with 'Andy'?"

"I learned it in church. We used to sing about it." Forest broke into song, "Andy walks with me, Andy talks with me, Andy

tells me I am His own."

St. Peter opened the gate to heaven and said, "Run, Forest, Run!"

RIDDLES

1. What is the difference between Spanish and dad jokes?

2. What is the difference between a hippo and a zippo?

3. What do you call an alligator in a vest?

THOUGHTS

*Due to the recent coin shortage, no one is allowed to put their 2 cents in anymore.

*Life: now I understand why Peter Pan didn't want to grow up!

*I'm so bored, I think I'm ready to call Jake from State Farm to ask him what he's wearing.

*Life is short. Make sure you spend as much time as possible on the internet arguing with strangers about politics.

ANSWERS

1. With Spanish, you roll your "r's" and with dad jokes, you roll your eyes.

2. One is really heavy and the other is a little lighter.

3. An investigator.

*When you start to think you don't matter, remember this: someone hears a song, thinks of you, and smiles; someone sees a piece of art, thinks of you, and smiles; someone hears a joke, thinks of you, and smiles, someone has a special mug they drink from, thinks of you and smiles. You matter!

Make someone smile today!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Shoals School Board meeting

The Shoals School Board will meet Thursday, August 13 at 6 p.m. in the central administration office. The meeting is open to the public.

Night of Praise

First Choice Solutions, formerly the Pregnancy Care Center, is having a Night of Praise on Friday, August 21 at the Word of Life Church located at 7144 N. Russell Drive, Bicknell, Indiana 47512. Music will be provided by Forged in Fire. The doors will open at 6:30 p.m. Music will be provided from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Free-will offering will be accepted.

Golf scramble

The Loogootee Girls' Basketball Program is hosting a golf scramble on Saturday, August 22 at Lakeview Golf Course. It will be a 9 a.m. start with ABCD format. Entry fee is \$45. For more information, contact Lonnie Hawkins at 812-947-8413.

Food pantry hours

The Loogootee United Methodist Food Pantry will be open the first, second, third and fifth Thursdays of the month from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and also the first Monday of the month from 5-6:30 p.m.

Mental Health Task Force

The Martin County Mental Health Task Force meets on the second Wednesday of the month from 1-2 p.m. at the Community Learning Center on the Martin County Fairgrounds.

Celebrate Recovery meetings

Celebrate Recovery meetings will be held every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. at Redemption Church in Loogootee. This is a Christ-centered recovery program and anyone is welcome to attend.

Local recovery meetings

Wednesdays-Alcoholic Anonymous, Martin County Community Corrections Building at 8 p.m.; Thursdays-Narcotics Anonymous, Redemption Church Loogootee at 8 p.m.; Fridays-Alcohol-

ic Anonymous, Loogootee Municipal Building Loogootee at 8 p.m.

Free lunch for kids

New Beginnings Community Church will be offering a free lunch to all school age children every Saturday. Lunches can be picked up at the fellowship hall of the church, located at 105 Wood St, Loogootee no later than 10:30 a.m. Deliveries will begin between 10:30 and 11 a.m. Saturdays.

WestGate hires new marketing manager



Purdue@WestGate and WestGate Academy in the WestGate@Crane Technology Park have named Morgan Thewes the Marketing and Communications Manager. Thewes has more than four years of experience in the field of marketing and sales, having most recently worked as the Community Manager at Livewire Coworking. Prior to that, she served as a Project Manager at Jasper Group. Thewes also serves on the Board of Directors for the Jasper Chamber of Commerce, and the Board of Directors for Heart of Jasper.

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47th Annual Jones Reunion held August 8

Thirty descendants and family members of James and Rachel (Gallagher) Jones met on August 8 at the Martin County Community Building in Loogootee for the 47th Annual Jones Reunion. Guests registered as they arrived and entered the door prize and candy jar guess. Donations were accepted to offset the cost of the reunion and for Anderson Cemetery to help with mowing expenses.

The room was decorated in a patriotic theme compliments of Jane Henry and Barbara and Jerry Loomis. The Uncle Sam table decorations were hand made by Jane Henry. A children's activity table was provided by Dianne Butler and Trudy Sutton. Dianne Butler gave the blessing before the noon meal. As always, a bountiful supply of food was set up across several tables.

After the meal, the business meeting was called to order by Chairman Linda Hawkins. Secretary Trudy Sutton read the minutes from the 2019 reunion and Treasurer Dianne Butler gave the financial report.

Barbara Loomis, on behalf of Betty Butler, began the memorial service remembering those who had passed away since last year's reunion. Included were

Gary and Phyllis Winger, Jack Callahan, and Jordana Jones Bowen. Barbara led everyone in a moment of silent prayer then commented that our small community had lost three citizens in recent months that had made a big impact locally: Joe Williams; Marvin Montgomery, and Eugene Roberts. Barbara then read a poem out of her 8th grade literature book titled "The House by The Side of the Road."

Dianne Butler, on behalf of Betty Butler, who was honored with the "Jones Nose" in 2019 selected Barbara Loomis as the 2020 recipient.

Introductions of everyone attending were made and the following special family events were announced:

Drusilla Chestnut reported the birth of a great-grandson, Stephan Hill.

Rick Jones reported a new grandson, Garrett Emerick Koetters.

Linda Hawkins announced that her granddaughter, Melanie Hawkins, was named Miss Congeniality at 2020 4-H Fair.

Diana Sparks reported two new grandchildren - Callum Bruce and Cora Busche Mike E. Jones reported that his son, Christopher Jones, graduated from Loogootee High School in 2020 and will be

attending USI.

Dianne Butler and Linda Hawkins, filling in for Mike L. and Gladys Jones, did a great job with attendance prizes which were awarded as follows: candy jar guess-Kristy Jones, door prize-Carolyn Colbert, most mature person-Barbara Loomis, youngest-Abram Wagler, traveled farthest-Diana and Joe Sparks.

Election of officers for 2020: Jim Jones made a motion to nominate the same officers as last year. Stephanie Jones seconded. Motion passed. Elected were Chairman-Linda Hawkins, Secretary-Trudy Sutton, Treasurer-Dianne Butler, Memorial Service-Barbara Loomis, Prizes-Mike L. and Gladys Jones, Silent Auction-Maryrose Risner, Decorations-Jane Henry, Barbara and Jerry Loomis.

Dianne Butler announced the winners of the silent auction.

Those attending from Martin County were Dianne Butler; Linda Hawkins; Gary E. and Nancy Jones; Jim and Stephanie Jones; Barbara and Jerry Loomis; Jessica, Ashton, Amiryah, and Abram Wagler; Cassidy, Tyler, Jase, and Braeden Dages; Michael E., Kristy, Christopher, Mikenna, and Isaiah Jones, Calli Winger; and Trudy Sutton.



Shown above are Dianne Butler (left) presenting the Jones Nose to Barbara Loomis (right) at the Jones Annual Reunion last Saturday.

Attending from Washington were Carolyn Colbert and Janice Johnson.

Attending from French Lick/West Baden were Drusilla Chestnut and Harmony Kozak.

Others attending from Indiana were Michelle Winger of Hardinsburg and Diana and Joe Sparks of Warsaw.

Next year's reunion will be Saturday, August 14, 2021 at the Martin County Community Building in Loogootee.

CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED

In His Hands Daycare is hiring Full-time for our Toddler room!

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National unemployment stands at 10.2 for July

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 1.8 million in July, and the unemployment rate fell to 10.2 percent, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported last week. These improvements in the labor market reflected the continued resumption of economic activity that had been curtailed due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and efforts to contain it. In July, notable job gains occurred in leisure and hospitality, government, retail trade, professional and business services, other services, and health care.

This news release presents statistics from two monthly surveys. The household survey measures labor force status, including unemployment, by demographic characteristics. The establishment survey measures nonfarm employment, hours, and earnings by industry.

Household Survey Data

In July, the unemployment rate declined by 0.9 percentage point to 10.2 percent, and the number of unemployed persons fell by 1.4 million to 16.3 million. Despite declines over the past 3 months, these measures are up by 6.7 percentage points and 10.6 million, respectively, since February.

Among the major worker groups, the un-

employment rates declined in July for adult men (9.4 percent), adult women (10.5 percent), teenagers (19.3 percent), Whites (9.2 percent), Asians (12.0 percent), and Hispanics (12.9 percent). The jobless rate for Blacks (14.6 percent) showed little change over the month.

The number of unemployed persons who were on temporary layoff decreased by 1.3 million in July to 9.2 million, about half its April level. In July, the number of permanent job losers and the number of unemployed reentrants to the labor force were virtually unchanged over the month, at 2.9 million and 2.4 million, respectively. (Reentrants are persons who previously worked but were not in the labor force prior to beginning their job search.)

Among the unemployed, those who were jobless less than 5 weeks increased by 364,000 to 3.2 million in July, and the number of persons jobless 15 to 26 weeks rose by 4.6 million to 6.5 million. By contrast, the number of unemployed persons who were jobless 5 to 14 weeks fell by 6.3 million to 5.2 million. The number of long-term unemployed (those jobless for 27 weeks or more), at 1.5 million, was little changed over the month.

The labor force participation rate, at 61.4 percent, changed little in July, following increases in May and June. Total employment, as measured by the household survey, rose by 1.4 million in July to 143.5 million. The employment-population ratio rose by 0.5 percentage point to 55.1 percent but remains lower than in February (61.1 percent).

In July, the number of persons who usually work part time rose by 803,000 to 24.0 million, while the number who usually work full time, at 119.5 million, was little changed.

The number of persons employed part time for economic reasons (sometimes referred to as involuntary part-time workers) declined by 619,000 to 8.4 million in July, reflecting a decline in the number of people whose hours were cut due to slack work or business conditions (-658,000). The number of involuntary part-time workers is 4.1 million higher than in February. These individuals, who would have preferred full-time employment, were working part time because their hours had been reduced or they were unable to find full-time jobs. This group includes persons who usually work full time and persons who usually work part time.

In July, the number of persons not in the labor force who currently want a job declined by 463,000 to 7.7 million; this measure is 2.8 million higher than in February. These individuals were not counted as unemployed because they were not actively looking for work during the last 4 weeks or were unavailable to take a job.

Among those not in the labor force who currently want a job, persons marginally attached to the labor force fell by 492,000 to 2.0 million in July. These individuals were not in the labor force, wanted and were available for work, and had looked for a job sometime in the prior 12 months but had not looked for work in the 4 weeks preceding the survey.

Discouraged workers, a subset of the marginally attached who believed that no jobs were available for them, numbered 665,000 in July, essentially unchanged from the previous month.

Establishment Survey Data

Total nonfarm payroll employment rose by 1.8 million in July, less than the increases of 4.8 million in June and 2.7 million in May. In July, nonfarm employment was lower than its February level by 12.9 million, or 8.4 percent. The largest employment increases in July occurred in leisure and hospitality, government, retail trade, professional and business services, other services, and health care.

Employment in leisure and hospitality increased by 592,000, accounting for about one-third of the gain in total nonfarm employment in July. Employment in food services and drinking places rose by 502,000, following gains of 2.9 million in May and June combined. Despite the gains over the last 3 months, employment in food services and drinking places is down by 2.6 million since February. Over the month, employment also rose in amusements, gambling, and recreation (+100,000).

Government employment rose by 301,000 in July but is 1.1 million below its February level. Typically, public-sector education employment declines in July (before seasonal adjustment). However, employment declines occurred earlier than usual this year due to the pandemic, resulting in unusually large July increases in local government education (+215,000) and state government education (+30,000) after seasonal adjustment. A July job gain in federal government (+27,000) reflected the hiring of temporary workers for the 2020 Census.

In July, retail trade added 258,000 jobs. Employment in the industry is 913,000 lower than in February. In July, nearly half of the job gain in retail trade occurred in clothing and clothing accessories stores

(+121,000). By contrast, the component of general merchandise stores that includes warehouse clubs and supercenters lost jobs (-64,000).

Employment in professional and business services increased in July (+170,000) but remains 1.6 million below its February level. The majority of July's gain occurred in temporary help services (+144,000).

In July, the other services industry added 149,000 jobs, with most of the increase occurring in personal and laundry services (+119,000). Since February, employment in other services is down by 627,000.

In July, health care added 126,000 jobs, with employment growth in offices of dentists (+45,000), hospitals (+27,000), offices of physicians (+26,000), and home health care services (+16,000). Job losses continued in nursing and residential care facilities (-28,000). Employment in health care is down by 797,000 since February.

In July, employment in social assistance increased by 66,000, with child day care services accounting for most of the gain (+45,000). Employment in social assistance is 460,000 lower than in February.

Employment in transportation and warehousing rose by 38,000 in July, following an increase of 87,000 in June. Despite job gains over the past 2 months, employment in the industry is down by 470,000 since a recent peak in January. In July, employment rose in transit and ground passenger transportation (+20,000), air transportation (+16,000), and couriers and messengers (+9,000).

Manufacturing employment increased by 26,000 in July. An employment gain in motor vehicles and parts (+39,000) was partially offset by losses in fabricated metal products (-11,000), machinery (-7,000), and computer and electronic products (-6,000). Although manufacturing has added 623,000 jobs over the past 3 months, employment is 740,000 lower than in February.

Financial activities added 21,000 jobs in July, with most of the gain in real estate and rental and leasing (+15,000). Since February, employment in financial activities is down by 216,000.

In July, construction employment changed little (+20,000), following job gains of 619,000 in May and June combined. However, employment in the industry remains 444,000 below its February level.

Mining continued to shed jobs in July (-7,000), reflecting a loss in support activities

for mining (-11,000). Mining has lost 127,000 jobs since a recent peak in January 2019,

although nearly three-fourths of this decline has occurred since February 2020.

In July, average hourly earnings for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls rose by 7 cents to \$29.39, following large changes in recent months. Average hourly earnings of private-sector production and nonsupervisory employees decreased by 11 cents to \$24.63 in July. The large employment fluctuations--especially in lower-paid industries--over the past several months complicate the analysis of recent trends in average hourly earnings.

The average workweek for all employees on private nonfarm payrolls decreased by 0.1 hour to 34.5 hours in July. In manufacturing, the workweek rose by 0.7 hour to 39.7 hours, and overtime increased by 0.3 hour to 2.8 hours. The average workweek for production and nonsupervisory employees on private nonfarm payrolls was unchanged at 34.0 hours.

The change in total nonfarm payroll employment for May was revised up by 26,000, from +2,699,000 to +2,725,000, and the change for June was revised down by 9,000, from +4,800,000 to +4,791,000. With these revisions, employment in May and June combined was 17,000 higher than previously reported.



Making A Difference

MARTIN COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

By Curt Johnson
MCCF Executive Director



-- CHALLENGE GRANTS --

The Martin County Community Foundation just recently closed this year's Impact Grant Cycle and we're in the process of reviewing the applications. It's a competitive process with limited funds available for us to grant. So, sometimes we give a type of grant called a "challenge grant" as a way to help our non-profit partners meet a need.

A challenge grant requires that the grant recipient raise a portion of the funds on their own prior to receiving their grant. A challenge grant enables the recipient to raise more money than the grant can provide and brings awareness to the community of the need that exists.

-- OUR FIRE DEPARTMENTS --

We hope to never have need of our local fire departments, but we are so very thankful and comforted to know that they are there for us when we need them. These individuals are willing to risk their lives in order to keep us safe.

It is important that their safety is addressed as well. "Turnout gear" that meets the most current safety standards is one way to do this. The National Fire Protection Association requires fire departments to retire turnout gear that is 10 years old, regardless of how many times

it has been used. One set of turnout gear can cost between \$2,000 and \$3,500. This is an expense that can be very difficult for fire departments to meet.

-- HAYSVILLE VFD --

With the help of a Martin County Community Foundation Challenge Grant, the Haysville Community Volunteer Fire Department (VFD) was able to purchase new turnout gear for their fire fighters. In the picture are Owen Fuhrman, Bailey Holt and Steven Buchta wearing their new gear.

-- MORE INFORMATION --

And a special "thank you" goes to Judy Quyle, our webpage administrator, for the bulk of this week's column content. Please visit our webpage to see more of the positive impacts that the MCCF has had in the community because of donors who see the MCCF as a way that they can help others.

For more information about the MCCF, please contact the MCCF Director, Curt Johnson, at 812-295-1022 or mccf@cf-partner.org.

You are also welcome to visit our webpage at www.cfpartner.org, follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/MartinCountyCF](https://twitter.com/MartinCountyCF), and "like" the MCCF Facebook page at www.facebook.com/mccommunityfoundation.



Pictured in their new turnout gear are, left to right, Owen Fuhrman, Bailey Holt and Steven Buchta of the Haysville Volunteer Fire Department.



A walk through the garden reveals that there is a lot of work to do. The abundant rain recently has resulted in lush growth. That is both good and bad. It is wonderful to see the vegetables putting on the growth and producing great crops, but the weeds have also grown and multiplied. I sometimes think I need to clone myself to get everything caught up.

Speaking of cloning, that is exactly what we do when we divide plants or produce new plants from stem, leaf or root cuttings. We get an exact duplicate of the parent plant. Now is a good time to do some cloning of irises.

If your bearded irises had smaller blooms or fewer blooms than they used to have, they probably have become over-crowded and need to be divided. To do this, dig around the perimeter of the clump. You will likely notice that the rhizomes are practically on top of the ground, so there is no need to dig deeply. Pull the rhizomes apart, trying to avoid breaking the rhizomes. Cut the foliage down to about 4 inches. This will be enough for the plant to continue photosynthesis in its new home but will avoid being uprooted by strong winds. Discard any rhizomes that are soft or that have holes in them. If you do have some soft rhizomes, you may wish to dust the remaining roots with some powdered Sulphur to help ward off a recurrence of fungal disease.

You may wish to plant part of the rhizomes back in the original spot. Add some compost to the area to enrich the soil. Make slender ridges to hold the rhizome and place the roots into the troughs. Cover the roots with soil. I like to use a root stimulator liquid fertilizer when watering them in. For rhizomes that are going to a new bed, you will

want to take care in preparing the bed. If possible, you may wish to remove existing vegetation and solarize the soil by covering the area with a sheet of black plastic. Use rocks or boards to hold the plastic in place. The plastic will cause the soil beneath it to heat up, killing any weed seeds in the soil. After planting, you may wish to use a pre-emergent herbicide to prevent weeds. Since the rhizomes are not seeds, the herbicide will not affect them.

If your irises are not in need of division and you would like to practice this technique, come see me at Sandhill Gardens. There are plenty of iris beds that should be renewed, and I will gladly let you practice. You may even leave with some rhizomes to plant in your garden.

I often receive questions about cutting back perennial foliage after the plant has flowered. In general, the plant continues to feed the roots through photosynthesis as long as the leaves are green. When the leaves turn yellow, go ahead and cut back the foliage to tidy up the garden. At this time, many of the oriental lilies and tiger lilies are ready to be cut back. If the foliage shows no sign of disease, add the plants to the compost pile. However, if the foliage has black spot or some other fungal disease, dispose of it away from the garden.

For many perennials, including peonies, I heed my grandmother's advice to transplant them only in months that contain an "r". September is an excellent time to do so, but August is the time to prepare the bed to receive the plants. Use the solarization technique described above to prepare the bed. When you remove the plastic, add generous amounts of compost. This will help your new bed get off to a great start.

Apply for Private Lands Access hunts

Hunters can apply for reserved gamebird hunting opportunities on private property through the Indiana Private Lands Access program until September 21.

Formally known as the Access Program Providing Land Enhancements (APPLE), the Indiana Private Lands Access program offers quail, pheasant, and woodcock hunting opportunities on private property. Draw result notifications will be emailed within two weeks of the application deadline. Successfully drawn applicants will be allowed two hunting partners. All regulations and bag limits apply.

These hunts are allocated through the online reserved hunt system. The online application is the only way to apply.

Spring Mill State Park offers 10-mile challenge

Spring Mill State Park and the Friends of Spring Mill group are adding their own trail challenge to the list of Indiana State Park trail challenges, and this one will be the longest of the group.

Spring Mill's challenge is 10.8 miles long and encompasses all of the park's trails. Hikers will see a National Natural Landmark, cave lookouts and a view of the Pioneer Village, and take a lake hike and a walk by Spring Mill Inn. The challenge can be completed within a day or spread out over a year.

Spring Mill's challenge is the seventh challenge trail offered at Indiana State Parks. Turkey Run, Shades, Indiana Dunes, Pokagon, Clifty Falls and Chain O'Lakes also host challenge trails. Find out more about all of the challenges at

Hunters may apply for one hunting period. Although the hunting period is two days, selected hunters may only hunt one day of the two-day period.

You can register for this hunt and check the status of the draw at on.IN.gov/reservedhunt.

The Indiana Private Lands Access program offers financial incentives to landowners who allow controlled public access hunting on their private lands. Wildlife biologists also work with landowners to establish and improve wildlife habitat.

For more information about the Indiana Private Lands Access program, please visit wildlife.IN.gov/9572.htm.

dnr.IN.gov/healthy.

Hikers who complete Spring Mill's challenge can go to the Friends of Spring Mill State Park Facebook page, where there will be a link to purchase trail challenge T-shirts for \$20. Those who complete the challenge again can purchase a Spring Mill Trail Challenge sticker for \$1 from the park office or Lakeview Activity Center in addition to a T-shirt, but must bring at least one T-shirt into the office to prove they previously completed the challenge.

The design of the stickers and T-shirts will change each year. Profits from the Trail Challenge will support various projects within the park.

Spring Mill State Park (on.IN.gov/springmills) is at 3333 State Road 60 E., Mitchell 47446.

Application deadline for state park deer management hunts is August 17

Indiana State Parks is seeking volunteer hunters to participate in deer management hunts at 17 locations later this year.

Properties where hunting is allowed with firearms only (i.e., any firearm legal to take deer on public land in Indiana) are: Brown County, Chain O'Lakes, Charlestown, Harmonic, Lincoln, McCormick's Creek, Ouabache, Pokagon, Potato Creek, Prophetstown, Shades, Spring Mill, Turkey Run, Versailles, and Whitewater Memorial state parks.

Properties where hunting is allowed by archery only (i.e., any archery equipment legal to take deer in Indiana) are: Fort Harrison State Park and Trine State Recreation Area.

The dates on which the hunts will take place are November 16-17 and November 30-December 1.

Volunteers can apply online at wildlife.IN.gov/5834.htm, where additional guidelines can be found under State Park Deer Management Draw.

Applications must be received by 11:59 p.m. on August 17.

Management hunts are carried out exclusively to achieve an ecological objective – to ensure balanced and healthy natural communities for all plants and wildlife within park boundaries.

Successful applicants are allowed to take up to three deer. Only one of those deer can be antlered. Deer harvested at a state park management hunt are not counted toward regular statewide bag limits. Trophy hunting or passing on does or smaller bucks to wait for a larger buck, is counter to the ecological objective of state park management hunts and is strongly discouraged.

Changes to online license system portal

Signing in to buy hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses looks a little different now. A new state online portal called Access Indiana, which allows citizens to interact with all facets of state government through a single login, has been implemented.

Presently, there are 18 services that users can enter through Access Indiana. Individuals who already have an online account to purchase licenses should have received an email with helpful account information. New DNR customers will be directed to create an Access Indiana account before supplying additional DNR-specific account information. New

customers will then be able to complete their DNR profile and purchase a license.

If you haven't already purchased your hunting license for this fall, we recommend creating your Access Indiana account today. Find instructions for getting started at www.in.gov/access/getting-started.html. For additional assistance with usernames or passwords, call 800-457-8283 for Access Indiana customer support. DNR is unable to assist with usernames and passwords. More information about the Access Indiana portal, answers to FAQs, and other helpful information is available at www.in.gov/access/faqs-help.html.



MINUTES FROM TOWN: Situated on 1.81 acres +/- beautiful wooded setting is this 3 BR, 2 bath manufactured home w/several updates, sunroom, carport, garage, shed, & workshop. \$138,000. Call Billy. MLS#202030297

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~THANK YOU SO MUCH~

The family of Joe Williams would like to thank everyone for the love and support shown to us. We will not mention names lest we forget someone.

We thank the medical personnel, police and sheriff's departments, friends, family, neighbors, and strangers who came to Joe's aid. We appreciate your valiant efforts and support following his passing.

We are grateful for the visits from family and friends, monetary donations, beautiful gifts and flowers, delicious food, cards, prayers, kind words and hugs. All touched our hearts.

To his friends from his teaching days, your fond memories brought smiles. To those who called him Mr. Williams, thanks for the expressions of gratitude and stories. A special thank you to the LHS Class of 2012 for their gift.

We acknowledge the St. John Class of 1967 for the flowers and visits from his classmates. He was a proud Eagle.

We owe gratitude to our church family for their guidance and prayers. The mass, eulogy, and grave services were all beautiful. Thanks to all who were a part of these. We also appreciate the prayer service conducted by the members of the SVdP Conference.

Thanks to the funeral home staff. Our grief was eased by those who gently guided us and accommodated our requests. We thank the pall bearers and honorary pall bearers. You were special to Joe.

Thanks to the various boards of which Joe was a member. We were comforted by your visits and gifts. He was proud to serve with you.

The farming community has done what farmers do in times of need. Your expressions of sorrow, stories, and your offers of assistance in the hay harvest have reminded us how special farmers are. We are so grateful.

As a final tribute to Joe, please smile and be kind to everyone.

Vernita, Adam & Andrea and the entire Williams family